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Afghanistan role past 2011 subject of unofficial chats

ON THE HILL Some Conservatives and Liberals are having hushed talks in backrooms about Canada's role in Afghanistan beyond next year, The Canadian Press has learned.

Neither the Tories nor Grits want to keep troops in Kandahar to wage war on the insurgency. But other options are on the table.

Chief among them seems to be moving Canadians up to Kabul to train Afghan security forces from behind the walls of military compounds.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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SCANLIFE
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Find out on the Local page.

Celebrity Buzz pg 14

Berry too old for Aubry?

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CHEO ambassador defies odds

Teen treated as infant walks in fundraiser as 5,000 raise more than half a million

TIM WIECLAWSKI
tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca

As 13-year-old Brandon Oliveira strolled across the finish line of the 5K walk event for the CN Cycle for CHEO there is no evidence to suggest that, as a baby, doctors had warned his parents he could never walk at all.

When Brandon was only six months old he was diagnosed with neuroblastoma. A tumour beside his kidney had twisted around two of the nerves running into his lower leg.

"It was hard to hear that my son, who's not even a year old, had cancer. It was just unbelievable," said Brandon's mother, Lori, about first hearing the diagnosis.

After an eight-hour surgery to remove the tumour, Brandon surprised everyone by standing up the next day.

Unfortunately, after the surgery, he was diagnosed with a rare form of pneumonia. Brandon wasn't discharged from hospital until three days after his first birthday.

Brandon Oliveira

Yesterday, Brandon, a first-time CHEO ambassador, completed the walk event of the CN Cycle for CHEO with his friends and family.

"I was glad to give back to the hospital after all they've done for me," he said.

More than 5,000 people raised $570,173 in the annual CHEO Foundation fundraiser at the Canadian War Museum.

One of the largest groups of riders, walkers and skaters was Team Molly, named after eight-year-old Molly Robillard who had just completed her last chemotherapy treatment March 29.

Last week, a confirmation checkup found Molly with no health problems.

More than 100 of Molly's friends, teachers and family members took part in the event, raising around $25,000.

Louisiana

Slick spreading

GERALD HERBERT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A crew boat lays oil booms off the coast of Louisiana yesterday in preparation for the looming oil spill from the sinking of the Deepwater Horizon oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico. More coverage, page 5.

Ignatieff's nod to GG raises eyebrows

JOB WELL DONE Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff is urging the prime minister to extend Michaëlle Jean's term as Governor General when her five-year appointment expires in September.

In an unusual break with the non-partisan tradition of all things GG, Ignatieff issued a news release yesterday saying the Queen's Canadian secretary consulted him on a successor at Stephen Harper's request. Jean has served her country with "distinction and honour" and deserves Canada's thanks, Ignatieff said.

Robert Finch of the Monarchist League of Canada said Ignatieff's endorsement "risks (undermining) the whole non-partisan nature of the Crown."

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Local

Victory in the Atlantic remembered

Members of Canada's maritime community marched yesterday after a ceremony to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the Victory in the Atlantic at the National War Memorial. The event, which commemorates the sacrifices and the accomplishments of Canada during the Battle of the Atlantic and remembers the more than 4,600 men and women who lost their lives at sea, also recognizes the centennial of the founding of the Canadian Navy this year. METRO OTTAWA

Walk raises $135K for help phone

TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

They may seem too young to have the weight of the world on their shoulders, but Ottawa daycare teacher Jeanick Cleroux and her work associates walked for the futures of the children they know yesterday.

MARC DESROSIERS/FOR METRO OTTAWA

Mayor Larry O'Brien, left, helps cut a ribbon yesterday to launch this year's Walk for Kids Help Phone. The event raised $135,000.

"We're very passionate about children ... so we try to support anything that has to do with children," said Cleroux, one of 450 people who took part in the Walk for Kids Help Phone.

But according to Morah MacDonald, Kids Help Phone co-ordinator for eastern Ontario, children as young as five years old contact Kids Help Phone about issues they experience at home and at school.

For the last 21 years, young people have been calling, and in more recent years, turning to Kids Help Phone online for help with problems including mental health issues, eating disorders, bullying and cyber bullying, family issues and to ask questions about drugs, sex and abuse.

"Twenty-five per cent of the kids that are calling are calling in with mental-health related issues," said walk chair Sandy Clement. "Where we used to see more peer issues and family issues, now we're seeing more of the mental health issues."

Yesterday, participants raised $135,000 through the walk. The event is the organization's biggest fundraiser of the year, making up about 30 per cent of the organization's overall budget.

Last year, 2.2 million kids contacted Kids Help Phone by phone or through the website, said MacDonald. Last year, 100,000 of those calls came from the Ottawa area.

"The need is going up and up every year," said MacDonald. "That's why every dollar that we raise is so important. "For every kid that calls, there are approximately 70 (kids) that are too shy or nervous," she said. "So they go online and access our web services."

Walk participant Leslie DiPietrantonio has been doing the walk for years.

"I think it's a great cause," she said. "I have two little kids, and I want to make sure they get help if needed."

metronews.ca

WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video A sky-high glass ceiling will be shattered when this week when the Snowbirds get their first female commander at **metronews.ca/canada**

Video Pot activists rally for legalization, but Ottawa may have very different plans at **metronews.ca/canada**

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No joke, these people take laughing seriously

TRACEY TONG
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TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

World Laughter Day participants Natalie Lapierre and Arthur Weeks laughed, sang and danced at the Ottawa event on Parliament Hill yesterday. There's always room for more laughter, Weeks said.

HEALTH Dozens of people chuckled, chortled, guffawed and had a jolly good time at Parliament Hill yesterday — for absolutely no reason other than for the heck of it.

With no jokes required, people of all ages and backgrounds converged for a good old-fashioned giggle to celebrate World Laughter Day.

"In the 1950s, people laughed 18 minutes a day, and now we laugh less than five minutes," said Sophie Terrasse, organizer of World Laughter Day in Ottawa.

According to Terrasse, who led the group in laughter yoga yesterday, reasons for that include "difficulty to live in the present moment and that we take things and ourselves too seriously."

Laughing more has changed Petra Friedrichson's life.

A year ago, she had trouble walking and needed a new outlook on life.

"Kids laugh about 400 times a day and adults laugh less than 15," she said. "I have days where I don't laugh at all. So I decided to take laughing seriously and laugh for no reason."

Now a laughter leader at the Barrhaven Laughter Club (one of two clubs in Ottawa), Friedrichson has eliminated all her physical ailments and her attitude has changed.

"We fake it at the beginning," she said. "The body doesn't know the difference. We can fake it until we make it."

The benefits of laughter, or what Friedrichson calls "an internal jogging," include alleviating depression, lowering blood pressure, reducing stress and keeping the immune system up.

Ottawa resident Natalie Lapierre had heard of laughter yoga before, but only tried it yesterday for the first time.

"It was really good fun, like being a kid all over again," she said. "You can't put a price on that."

"You can't help but feel positive," said participant Arthur Weeks. "If you're laughing, you can't have negative thoughts at the same time."

Scan this code for Local news.
See the Local page to learn how to scan.

Panhandler union rep to run for council

POLITICS After years of fighting city hall, Ottawa Panhandlers Union spokesman Andrew Nellis is taking a new approach.

Nellis will be registering to run for city council in Rideau-Vanier Ward later this week.

The current councillor, Georges Bedard, has not yet registered for the race, but is expected to run again.

Telecom hardware designer Aaron Helleman has launched his campaign to replace Peggy Feltmate in Kanata South. There are now four candidates registered in the ward. Feltmate is not running again.

Joseph King is taking another run at the council seat in Barrhaven. King came in second with 11.6 per cent of the vote in a rout by Jan Harder in the 2006 election. Harder has not registered yet, but is expected to seek re-election.

TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA

News in brief

VANDALISM Police are seeking suspects after 32 tombstones were knocked over and damaged at the Notre Dame Cemetery at 455 Montreal Rd. late Friday or early Saturday.

PATH CLOSED Two kilometres of the Rideau River recreational pathway, from Bronson Avenue Bridge to Hog's Back Road, will be closed temporarily for work that begins today and runs through October. METRO OTTAWA

Beer stunt leads to suspension for kids' coach

A video posted on YouTube that shows 10-year-old hockey players in Humbolt, Sask., posing with cans and bottles of beer has resulted in the suspension of an assistant coach and a parent who acted as the team's treasurer. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Stop worrying and love the alien

Former Canadian defence minister Paul Hellyer is puzzled by Stephen Hawking's fear of an alien invasion — he's a big fan of aliens. Hellyer believes that not only have they visited Earth, but that they've also contributed greatly to human technological advances, such as microchips and fibre optics. Hawking, a world-renowned astrophysicist, recently warned that it could be dangerous for humans to interact with alien life. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Media blackout

Publication ban will fuel rumours: Critics

A sweeping court-ordered publication ban that prevents anyone from reporting on a high-profile court case into the slaying of an eight-year-old girl has raised some hackles across the country.

With front-page editorials lambasting the temporary ban as one that goes too far, experts in media law agree the extent of the ban on the Victoria Stafford case is unusual and one that will simply fuel rampant speculation.

"It's unusual in its scope and how broad it is, and how much it covers," said Iain MacKinnon, a lawyer acting on behalf of several media organizations covering the case.

"Gagged" yells a bold headline on the front page of Saturday's Toronto Star. "This ban goes too far" argues an editorial in the Globe and Mail.

Stafford disappeared in April last year, after leaving her school in Woodstock, Ont. Her remains were found three months later, some 100 kilometres away in a field north of Guelph.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Victoria Stafford, 8, was found dead last year. A publication ban on the case of those charged in her death has raised ire among some.

One of the suspects charged in her death, 19-year-old Terri-Lynne McClintic, was scheduled to appear in court Friday facing a first-degree murder charge. A blanket publication ban issued by Justice Dougald McDermid prevents all media from saying anything else. The decision has sparked some fierce criticism.

One Star editorial points out that open courts give the public confidence that justice is being done. A second front-page editorial goes further with blacked out sections indicating where details of what transpired Friday would have been written.

The affront to traditional media sensibilities is clear, MacKinnon said.

"I think the media is right to feel outraged," said the lawyer, who plans to argue against the ban at a later date. "It's quite frustrating and discouraging."

The reason for the ban being imposed, is also off limits. MacKinnon said the ban was issued so any information from Friday's court proceedings would not undermine the case in the future.

"Since we have no idea whatsoever what this publication ban is all about and what it seeks to protect, it may lead to all kinds of speculation," said Klaus Pohle, who teaches media law at Carleton University.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Could eating tasty fish be altering evolution?

CALGARY Researchers are exploring whether the desire to have the plumpest, flakiest whitefish fillets on dinner plates may actually be gutting the evolution of the species in a northern Alberta lake and threatening a million-dollar industry.

Nets used by the commercial whitefish industry on Lesser Slave Lake have always been designed to catch the biggest and best fish. But smaller fish fall through the holes, and researchers suggests that it's the genes of those small fish that are being passed on, causing an inadvertent shift in how the species evolves.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ScanLife

What does Kevin Newman's departure from Global mean for Canadian broadcasters?

Scan code for more.

Learn how to scan on the Local page.

TROY FLEECE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lt.-Col. Maryse Carmichael is set to officially become the first female boss of the Snowbirds aerobatic team on Thursday.

Snowbirds to get first female boss

FLYING The first female boss of the renowned Snowbirds aerobatic team walks toward her CT-114 Tutor jet and laughingly glances at the rudder to make sure it hasn't been painted pink.

There have been rumours it might happen, jokes Lt.-Col. Maryse Carmichael.

But the rudder isn't pink. The only thing that distinguishes this jet from a dozen or so others lined up on the tarmac are the black letters on the tail, "CO," for commanding officer.

Carmichael will break a sky-high glass ceiling Thursday by officially taking command of the Snowbirds, becoming the first woman to lead the squadron in its 40-year history. She's modest about taking on the groundbreaking role. She notes that while it's a first for the Snowbirds, women have already led other squadrons in the Canadian Forces.

"I was on the team a few years ago and I was the first woman to fly with the Snowbirds and that was really different," she said.

"But now this posting is really about commanding this squadron and commanding the men and women that really represent the Canadian Forces across Canada."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Research aims to understand suicide-by-rail

STUDY In the 32 years Colin Mann spent working on the railway, the engineer crushed his eyes shut more than a dozen times, sickly aware of his helplessness to make his engine avoid the impending destruction of a person or vehicle.

Nine of those accidents were fatal.

Suicide researchers at the Universite de Quebec a Montreal are asking for stories like Mann's as they study the issue of suicide-by-rail, a phenomenon too horrible to comprehend for most people, but known too well by anyone who spends their career on Canada's 48,000 kilometres of rail.

The letter to workers from researchers said "this project's overall goal is to provide a better understanding of rail-related accidents and suicides, as well as their impact."

Transport Canada is funding the study in co-operation with Canada's railways, the Teamsters's rail division and Operation Lifesaver. A September 2007 Transport Canada report said one of the top reasons for railway trespassing fatalities was suicide. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

LIBEL LAW The Internet is not a "no man's land" when it comes to libel, lawyers for Conrad Black say in arguing six libel lawsuits should proceed in Ontario. The lawyers will be in the Ontario Appeal Court today for a hearing on an appeal from the libel action's defendants.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Travellers warned of 'imminent attacks' in India
The U.S., Australia and Canada have warned travellers that terror groups were likely planning "imminent attacks" in India's capital. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kandahar memorial to include Americans

It is a sign of unwavering respect, but also a sign of the times, and perhaps a sign of things to come.

The Canadian memorial to soldiers at Kandahar Airfield is about to undergo a major expansion, adding two wings to the existing structure to accommodate American soldiers who've been killed serving under Canadian command.

The white marble and black granite cenotaph has grown steadily over the years. It started in 2006 as a simple boulder where plaques of fallen soldiers were hung.

But as the casualties mounted with heartbreaking regularity, the tribute quickly outgrew its place and the current open-air vault was created.

U.S. casualties started to outpace Canadian losses late last year and that is before the summer fighting season and NATO's planned Kandahar offensive gets underway.

Brig.-Gen. Dan Menard, the commander of Canadian troops in Afghanistan, says the two countries have been fighting alongside each other here for months and the losses should be recognized, regardless of nationality.

"This memorial is extremely important for Canadians, but we want to make it a more all-inclusive," he said.

"When you look at this memorial, it is just not representative enough as far as I'm concerned. A lot of (U.S. soldiers) have paid the ultimate price and it's important that there's room here for them."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. losses

- Over the past year, 26 American soldiers serving under a Canadian commander have died in action, the vast majority through insidious home-made bombs and mines.

Ceremony **Battle of the Atlantic**

ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A wreath is tossed from HMCS Sackville into the waters of Halifax harbour yesterday during a ceremony marking the Battle of the Atlantic. The campaign lasted from 1939 to 1945, involving thousands of ships as Germany attempted to destroy Allied convoys.

Tests prove hunter shot offspring of hybrid polar-grizzly bear

ANIMAL Researchers in the Northwest Territories say they may have found the first recorded case of a second-generation hybrid polar-grizzly bear in the wild, but an expert says it's not clear what the significance may be.

Government officials in the Northwest Territories said a hunter, David Kuptana, shot an unusual-looking bear during a hunting trip April 8 near Banks Island, in the Inuvik region.

He provided federal scientists with samples to see what type of bear it was.

Officials with the territorial government said those tests showed the dead bear was a hybrid — the offspring of a female hybrid polar-grizzly mix who had mated with a male grizzly. Scientists confirmed this by comparing the dead bear's DNA with that of local polar bear and grizzly populations, and that of a male polar-grizzly hybrid, which was shot on Banks Island in 2006.

Government officials in the northern territory say the find confirms that a female hybrid bear in the region is reproducing with other bears.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

DAIRY The U.S. government's bid to expand a border station on the U.S.-Canada boundary is threatening a dairy farm whose owners have been told to sell some of their land or risk having it seized. The Morses Line Port of Entry, in Franklin, Vt., is located right in the middle of the Rainville family's dairy farm. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, in a nationwide push to improve security at border crossings, wants to spend about $7 million to renovate and expand it. A 4.9-acre hayfield is in the way. The Rainville family was told last week that if they won't sell it for $39,500, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will use eminent domain to seize the acreage.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Scandal-plagued Legionaries accept papal takeover
Connecticut-based Legionaries of Christ says it has accepted the Pope's decision to appoint a delegate to lead the order after revelations its founder sexually abused seminarians. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Storms wreak havoc on southern U.S.

Six people were killed in Tennessee and three in Mississippi by a line of storms that brought heavy flooding and possible tornadoes to the region over the weekend. Emergency officials in Tennessee sought help from the state's Army National Guard, and urged people to stay off roads and interstate highways turned into raging rivers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pakistani Taliban claim credit for NYC car bomb

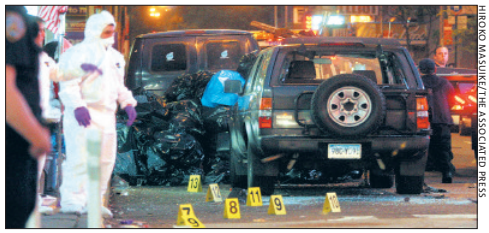
The Pakistani Taliban claimed responsibility in a video released yesterday for the attempted car bomb attack in Times Square in New York City.

In the video allegedly released by the Pakistani Taliban, the group says the attack is revenge for the death of its leader, Baitullah Mehsud, and the recent slayings of the top leaders of al-Qaida in Iraq who were killed by U.S. and Iraqi troops last month north of Baghdad.

A speaker on the tape, uncovered by the U.S-based SITE monitoring group, also says the attack comes in response to American "interference and terrorism in Muslim countries, especially in Pakistan." The claim could not be immediately confirmed.

The tape makes no specific reference to the attack. A text at the start of the video congratulates Muslims for the "jaw-breaking blow to Satan's USA."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



HIROKO MASUIKE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Authorities examine a vehicle in New York's Times Square yesterday morning after police found a bomb inside on Saturday.

False alarm?

- New York City's police commissioner said there's no evidence of a Taliban link to the failed bomb.

Nepal **Fiery protest**

ALTAF QADRI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Communist Party of Nepal supporters block a road in Kathmandu yesterday. Opposition supporters armed with bamboo sticks enforced a general strike that closed transportation, schools and markets across Nepal to demand Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal's resignation.

Spill on verge of 'unprecedented' disaster: Obama

OIL SPILL No remedy in sight, U.S. President Barack Obama yesterday warned of a "massive and potentially unprecedented environmental disaster" as a damaged oil well in the Gulf of Mexico spewed a deadly slick toward wetlands and wildlife. Obama flew to Louisiana to inspect forces arrayed against the oil gusher. As of now, it appeared little could be done in the short term to stem the oil flow, which was also drifting toward the beaches of neighbouring Mississippi and farther east along the Florida Panhandle..

Obama said the slick was 14 kilometres off the coast of southeastern Louisiana. The president vowed his administration, while doing all it could to mitigate the disaster, would require well owner BP America to bear all costs.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

FRAUD A controversial tradition among some Muslim immigrants to Europe has emerged alongside the burqa: Polygamy. Experts say polygamy in France can also be linked to fraud, where husbands hijack a generous social welfare system to line their pockets with state funds from each of their wives.

CHINA Chinese authorities have ordered school security tightened, part of the state's effort to assert control and calm public fears after three attacks on schools last week that left a few dozen children injured. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Roman Polanski breaks silence, says case will 'serve him on a platter' to media.

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Anglican bishops say they may defect to the Catholic Church

Two Church of England bishops say they have travelled to the Vatican for exploratory talks about joining the Catholic Church. The bishop of Fulham and the bishop of Richborough told The Associated Press they and a third bishop travelled to Rome to speak with Catholic officials. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Pandering to public fear'

Arizona paper slams senators for failure on immigration

Arizona's largest newspaper criticized U.S. Sens. John McCain and Jon Kyl and a host of other elected officials in a rare front-page editorial yesterday, saying the politicians have failed to find solutions to illegal immigration.

The state has become the target of calls for boycotts since adopting a law that requires local and state law enforcement officers to question people about their immigration status if there's reason to suspect they're in the country illegally.

"The federal government is abdicating its duty on the border. Arizona politicians are pandering to public fear," the Arizona Republic said in a full-page editorial.

"The result is a state law that intimidates Latinos while doing nothing to curb illegal immigration."

The editorial appeared one day after thousands marched against the law in Phoenix and Tucson, while May Day demonstrators in Chicago, New York, San Francisco and other U.S. cities also criticized the measure. In Los Angeles, about 50,000 demonstrators took to the streets.

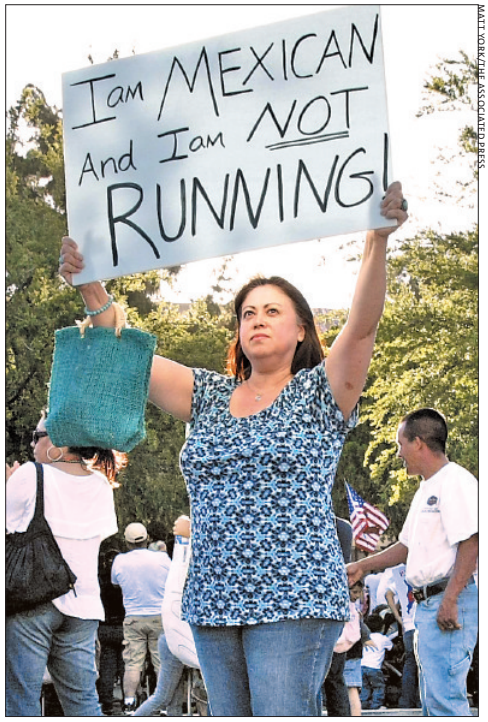
McCain was once a champion of immigration reform, but has abandoned his principles while he fights off a Republican primary challenge this year from former U.S. Rep. J.D. Hayworth, the Republic said. Kyl has also dropped efforts for comprehensive reform and is no longer willing to work with Democrats on the issue now that he's a member of the Senate Republic leadership, the paper said.

The editorial also named Gov. Jan Brewer, Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio and former governor and current Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Proposed reform

- The newspaper called for reform that allows for current undocumented immigrants to earn citizenship, secures the borders and creates tough sanctions for employers who hire undocumented immigrants.



MATT YORK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Susan Peralta, a third generation Mexican-American, protests outside the Arizona Capitol Saturday in Phoenix against Arizona's controversial new immigration bill.

Five killed in stampede at fair in northern Mexico

GUADALUPE Five people were trampled to death early yesterday when a gunshot fired at a cattle fair sent a panic-stricken crowd rushing for the exits in a northern Mexico town already on edge from rampant drug violence.

At least 17 other people were injured at the fair in Guadalupe, outside the industrial city of Monterrey, said Adrian de la Garza, head of the Nuevo Leon State Investigative Agency.

The dead, two women and three men, lay outside the building surrounded by crumpled beer cans and other litter dropped in the rush.

Police found a bullet casing from the shot that likely caused the 1 a.m. stampede, de la Garza said at a news conference.

At least 12 people at the scene were detained for questioning, according to an agency official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk publicly about the case.

He said Guadalupe officials were investigating possible negligence by organizers of the fair.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Afghan first' policy slows projects: Officials

CONTRACTS An effort to give construction projects to Afghan firms is leading to delays at a time when NATO is rushing to accommodate tens of thousands more international troops, U.S. officials say.

The Army Corps of Engineers is trying to award as many construction contracts as possible to Afghan companies to pump money into the local economy and win public support. New contracts are for NATO base expansions, Afghan police stations, Afghan army bases and other facilities. But officials say the "Afghan First" effort is slowing down badly-needed construction projects. Even U.S. officers who support the goals acknowledge there's a trade-off.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Moscow **The blue brigade**

MIKHAIL METZEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Members of the new "Society of Blue Buckets" wear blue buckets of all shapes and sizes as they gather in Moscow to take part in a flash mob event yesterday. Flashing blue lights have become a symbol of powerful elites who are forgiven if they break traffic rules.

News in brief

PAKISTAN Army helicopter gunships pounded insurgent hideouts in northwest Pakistan yesterday, killing at least 22 militants, a government official said. Samiullah Khan said the hideouts hit were in the Dabori area and its neighbouring villages of the Orakzai tribal region near the Afghan border. He added the aerial strikes also destroyed six militant compounds. Khan said the militants fired mortars at an army checkpoint in Mishti Mela area in Lower Orakzai, wounding two soldiers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Skeleton physical proof Africans lived in medieval England

HISTORY A 13th-century skeleton unearthed on the grounds of a friary may be the earliest physical evidence that Africans lived in England in medieval times, researchers said yesterday.

Forensics experts at the University of Dundee Scotland say that the bones most likely belonged to a man from modern-day Tunisia who spent about a decade living in England before he died.

"I believe that this is the first physical evidence of Africans in medieval England," said Jim Bolton, a historian at Queen Mary, University of London who wasn't involved in the discovery.

"Finding a skeleton like this is of major interest," he said.

The man — who appears to have died of a spinal abscess — was identified as African by studying his skeleton and the historical record of the friary where he was buried.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

No bones about it

- Researchers were able to pin the man to Tunisia using isotope analysis, a technique analyzing the mix of elements that build up in a person's teeth, bones or tissues. Since people from different areas tend to accumulate elements in different ways, analysis of their remains can pinpoint where they grew up, where they lived or even their diet.

celebrate mom

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Comment

Too good to pass up?

Unanimity is a rare thing on our contentious city council, but last week councillors rallied overwhelmingly around a $155-million deal to buy new buses. (Earlier in the day, they had wrangled tirelessly over $200,000 for a couple of drinking water trucks.)

The City of Chicago, which saw its revenue from state sales tax tank in the economic downturn, cancelled a large order from Winnipeg's New Flyer Industries, leaving the company ready to make a deal on our 226-bus order, knocking about $100,000 of the price of each one. The only catch was New Flyer needed an answer fast.

It's also an election year, and a council with a modest record of achievement grabbed the deal with gusto. Any buyer's remorse will almost certainly manifest sometime after the election, and problems could take years to come to light.

Councillors Diane Deans, Rick Chiarelli and Bob Monette were the only nays, reluctant to commit to such a massive purchase on such short notice. New Flyer made the offer March 3 and demanded an answer by the end of April.

Still, even the doubters had to admit it looks like a good deal on the surface. Some financial calculations from city staff frankly made my head hurt, but they're claiming the $155.7-million purchase price will be offset by cash savings or cost avoidance of $156.9 million, leaving taxpayers $1.2 million ahead of the game. (When interest on the money borrowed to buy the buses is added, it's more like $210 million total over 15 years.)

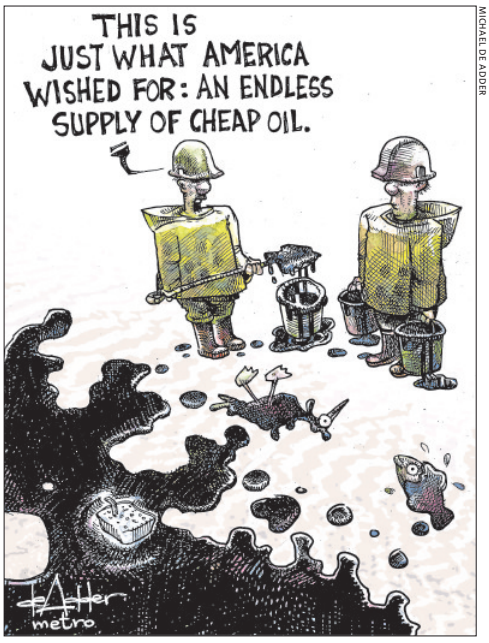
A big attraction is the trade-in of 226 older buses we bought from New Flyer between 2001 and 2004, buses that have been plagued by problems with the connectors of the articulated sections and brakes. By unloading them, we're expected to save an estimated $66 million we would have had to spend overhauling them over the next four years.

New Flyer tells us the new buses, in addition to solving the problems of the older model, offer greater fuel efficiency and reliability, along with lower emissions, ticking a number of OC Transpo's policy boxes.

The contract includes a number of extras, including a comprehensive five-year warranty, a $16-million credit on replacement parts and an anti-graffiti package. A replaceable acrylic lining fits over windows and can be discarded when some dork carves his name in it.

The first of the new buses should arrive in August. When the rubber hits the road, we'll know whether this deal was too good to pass up, or too good to be true.

Steve Collins lives, writes and walks in Ottawa; ottawaletters@metronews.ca



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Worth mentioning

Stand guard against feeling superior

If Canadians perceive themselves as Americans do — safe, sound, sensible, snug and maybe a bit snoozy — they could arguably add another adjective as they watch events fold south of the border in recent months: Smug.

But some observers of Canada-U.S. relations say Canadians should guard against a feeling of superiority as America struggles through a period of seething discontentment.

While Canada may not have an anti-government Tea Party movement of its own or protesters marching on the nation's capital to question their leader's birth certificate, neither is it enduring a stubborn recession that's left one in 10 of its citizens out of work — a dire reality that has spurred some Americans into political activism.

"We are fundamentally very similar, we have largely the same values, the same hopes and aspirations; we live our lives in very similar ways," Chris Sands, a Canada-U.S. relations expert at the Hudson Institute in Washington, said in a recent interview.

But he cites the viewpoint of Richard Van Loon, a former civil servant and one-time president of Carleton University who once asserted that a key difference between Americans and Canadians is that Canadians are less likely to get politically involved when unhappy.

"He argued that Canadians were spectator participants in politics, they felt disconnected, they didn't get organized, they didn't start up groups or get petitions signed — that isn't really the Canadian way," Sands said in a recent interview.

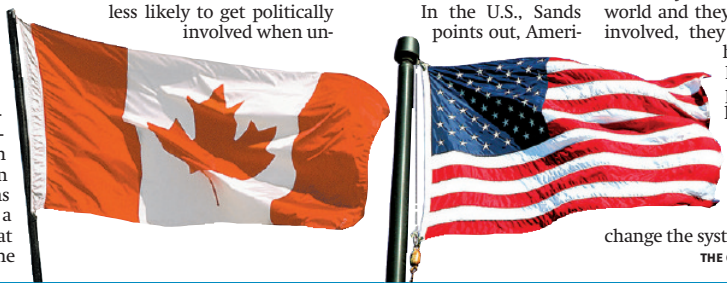
"Canadians have opinions, but they don't really think their politicians care, so they watch it all go by and weigh in at voting time, when they often do something dramatic like reduce the government to a small number of seats."

In the U.S., Sands points out, Americans take to the streets regardless of whether they're on the right or the left side of the political divide.

In D.C. at the end of the month, hundreds of so-called Birthers will march near the White House to voice their belief that U.S. President Barack Obama was not born on American soil, meaning recently passed health-care legislation is "unconstitutional and voidable." They've asked those who want to join the march to bring their birth certificates.

"Americans have a notion that they can change the world and they have to get involved, they have to be heard, they have to protest, they have to go on talk radio and rant, that it's the only way to change the system," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Noteworthy

Attractive co-workers fluster men, study finds

TOMAS LUNDIN
Metro World News

Men's brains stop working after talking to attractive female colleagues, according to a new study.

In an experiment at the Dutch University of Radboud, students took part in a series of tests that were interrupted midway by a conversation with a person of the same or opposite sex.

When the test continued the men's performance had deteriorated notably if they had been talking to a woman.

And the results got markedly worse if they had found the woman attractive.

For the women in the study there was no difference in performance whether they were speaking to either sex.

The difference is thought to be that when men talk to beautiful women they are so preoccupied with thinking about what they are saying, what they look like and how they are perceived that some brain functions are shut down — even after the conversation has ended.

Researcher Johan Karremans said: "The results were dramatically worse if the man thought the woman was attractive."

Quote of the Day

"We just think somebody ought to get up and say: 'Bravo, Michaëlle Jean; you've done a great job for Canada and in our view it would be great if you continue.'"

– LIBERAL LEADER MICHAEL IGNATIEFF, WHO IS URGING THE PRIME MINISTER TO EXTEND MICHAËLLE JEAN'S TERM AS GOVERNOR GENERAL WHEN HER FIVE-YEAR APPOINTMENT EXPIRES IN SEPTEMBER.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Continental and United to merge: Source
Directors at Continental and United airlines have approved a deal that would combine them into the world's largest airline, a source said yesterday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Consumer toll grows

The introduction of the harmonized sales tax in two of Canada's largest provinces and a wave of other new expenses could take a toll just as Canadians begin to feel confident about opening their wallets again, experts say.

Shoppers in British Columbia and Ontario started paying the HST on Saturday on a number of services — including theatre packages, airplane tickets and gym memberships — that will continue to be delivered after July 1, the day the HST will start to be broadly applied in both provinces.

The tax, which combines the five per cent federal goods and services tax with the provincial sales tax, has met with opposition from those who fear it will drive up the cost services that were previously exempt from provincial sales tax.

It comes as electricity rates in Ontario rise almost 10 per cent effective Saturday and consumers across the country brace for higher mortgage rates and rising municipal taxes.

The rising costs come as Canadians appear to be growing wary of their future purchasing power, according to the Conference Board of Canada's consumer confidence index, which fell a surprising 7.8 points this month to 84.8, the lowest it's been since December.

Kenneth Wong, a marketing professor at Queen's University, said the HST is supposed to benefit provincial economies by cutting costs for businesses, who are expected to pass the savings on to consumers.

And many taxpayers in Ontario don't know they'll receive "transition" cheques of up to $1,000 per family starting in June.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wallet's pinch

- Consumers across the country are bracing for the HST, as well as higher mortgage rates and rising municipal taxes.
- In June, the Bank of Canada may raise its key rate from its record low.

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Warren Buffett **Smacking the economy**

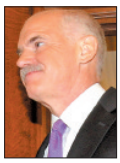
NATI HARNIK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Berkshire Hathaway chairman and CEO Warren Buffett performs for the crowd prior to his participation in an annual shareholders meeting in Omaha, Neb., yesterday. Berkshire Hathaway has rebounded from last year's first-quarter loss to earn $3.6 billion.

Greece pays price for EU bailout

DEBT Finance ministers from the 16 countries that use the euro agreed yesterday to rescue Greece with $110 billion in loans over three years to keep it from defaulting on its debts.

The loan package with the International Monetary Fund is also aimed at keeping Greece's debt crisis from spreading to other financially weak countries such as Spain and Portugal — just as Europe is struggling out of a painful recession.



PM George Papandreou

In return, Greece had to agree to an austerity program that will impose painful spending cuts and tax increases on its people for years to come.

The plan will still need approval by some countries' parliaments. But the head of the eurogroup, Luxembourg's Jean-Claude Juncker, said Greece will get the first funds by May 19, when Athens has $8.5 billion worth of a 10-year bond maturing.

Prime Minister George Papandreou said yesterday that the deal, following 10 days of talks in Athens, will cut Greece's budget deficit by $40 billion over three years, through a range of austerity measures.

"These sacrifices will give us breathing space and the time we need to make great changes," Papandreou said.

"I want to tell Greeks very honestly that we have a big trial ahead of us."

Savings would be achieved through public service and pension pay cuts, higher taxes and streamlining government, Finance Minister George Papaconstantinou said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Recovery looks rosy

DEFICIT Canada's surprisingly strong economic recovery continues gathering steam, with positive implications for both future job growth and government debt.

The country's gross domestic product rose a solid 0.3 per cent in February, after an outsized spike of 0.6 per cent to start the year, Statistics Canada said Friday. The latest data puts growth on a path to meet the Bank of Canada's rosy projection of a 5.8 per cent annualized advanced for the first quarter of 2010, which would constitute the best growth performance in a decade.

And, as if to confirm the strong data, the federal government disclosed that it posted a modest $902-million deficit in the same month, bringing the total shortfall for the fiscal year to $40.5 billion with one month left to go. That's well below the $53.8-billion shortfall Ottawa had estimated in its March budget.

"These two stories clearly go hand in hand," said Douglas Porter, deputy chief economist with BMO Capital Markets. "The fact the recovery has outperformed most expectations has also been reflected in better government revenues."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business in brief

CANWEST The deadline for bids to buy Canwest's newspaper division closed at midnight on Friday amid conflicting reports on whether Torstar Corp. had enough financing to submit an offer to acquire the chain. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NATURAL GAS Pipeline and energy company TransCanada Corp. is soliciting producers to see if they're interested in using the proposed Alaska Pipeline Project, a plan to bring natural gas to southern markets. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Going Green

EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONEWS.CA

METRO WORLD NEWS

Some municipalities are offering transit passes to Retire Your Ride.

Permanently parked

Retire Your Ride offers cash for your old clunker

BEN KNIGHT
for Metro Canada

Last July, U.S. President Barack Obama launched a Cash for Clunkers program designed to get old, polluting vehicle off American roads.

Response was so overwhelming, the operation was shut down less than two months later when it simply ran out of money.

What is less well-known is that Canada already had a similar plan in place. Launched in February 2009, Retire Your Ride has already exceeded its goal of 50,000 cars, nationally. It still has plenty of resources, and will continue until the end of next March.

"This is Canada's national vehicle scrappage program," national director Carla Kearns says. "It's about working with Canadians to encourage them to responsibly retire their older vehicles."

If your car is from the 1995 model year or older, you can apply to enter the program. If accepted, your car will be responsibly recycled, and you can receive a $300 payment, or choose from a series of environmentally friendly incentives.

"Cash works for a lot of people, but we have a lot of other incentives across the country that actually have a higher value than the cash alone," Kearns explains. "Many municipalities offer transit passes for six months, a year or even 15 months. Or, it could be something like a membership in a car-sharing program. We also have a number of automobile partners who can offer a rebate off the purchase of a new car."

If your car is from a 1995 model year or older, you can apply to Retire Your Ride.

Apply now

- Apply now to get your clunker off the road at retireyourride.ca.

The program is also available in French, under the wonderful name Adieu Bazou.

"One of the things we're looking to do is reduce smog in the air." Kearns notes, "So we want to make sure that these cars are actually running. We don't want to be taking cars off the road that are up on blocks in somebody's yard. To be eligible for the program, your car has to be insured for the past six months, and registered in your name."

Kearns adds that vehicles manufactured in or after 1996 do not qualify.

"There was a huge leap of improvement in vehicle emission standards between 1995 and '96. Results differ by manufacturer, but 1995 and earlier, they're pretty much all on the bad end of that range."

Retire Your Ride is funded by the federal government, and overseen nationally by Summerhill Impact.

They run a range pollution-reducing programs, including Mow Down Pollution, which offers incentives to replace gas-powered lawn mowers.

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Thorpe considering comeback?

Australian swimming great Ian Thorpe is reportedly considering a comeback in a bid to qualify for the 2012 London Olympics. Thorpe, 27, retired in 2006 after winning five Olympic gold medals. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sports

King James extends MVP reign

LeBron James, left, won his second straight NBA MVP award, dominating the voting just as he dominated on court all season. The Cleveland Cavaliers star received 116 of a possible 123 first-place votes to win in a landslide yesterday over Oklahoma City forward Kevin Durant. Durant was picked first on four ballots.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Sports in brief

TENNIS Rafael Nadal maintained his focus through two rain delays to beat fellow Spanish player David Ferrer 7-5, 6-2 yesterday and claim his fifth Rome Masters title in six years.

TENNIS Justine Henin beat Samantha Stosur 6-4, 2-6, 6-1 in the final of the Porsche Grand Prix yesterday to capture her first title since coming out of retirement in January.

SOCCER Chelsea stayed at the top of the Premier League with a 2-0 victory at Liverpool yesterday, while Manchester United made sure the title race will go to the last day with a 1-0 win at Sunderland.

LPGA Ai Miyazato shot a 6-under 67 yesterday to win the Tres Marias Championship for her third title on the LPGA Tour this season. The Japanese star finished with a 19-under 273 for the tournament, one better than Stacy Lewis (66) of United States and two in front of Michelle Wie (68).

GOLF Rory McIlroy won his first PGA Tour event in record style. The 20-year-old from Northern Ireland rolled in a 40-foot birdie putt on the final hole yesterday to set the course record with a 10-under 62 and win the Quail Hollow Championship.

NHL Bruins forward Marco Sturm will miss the rest of the post-season with torn ligaments in his right knee. Coach Claude Julien said yesterday that Sturm will not be back after tearing the anterior cruciate ligament and medial collateral ligament in his knee on the first shift of Boston's 5-4 OT victory over the Philadelphia Flyers in Saturday's opener of their best-of-seven Eastern Conference semifinal.

HORSE RACING Calvin Borel boldly predicted he's going to win the Triple Crown after Super Saver sloshed to a 2½-length victory in the Kentucky Derby. Ever-cautious trainer Todd Pletcher is caught up in the idea, too. He says Super Saver came out of Saturday's race in good shape, and will stay at Churchill Downs to train for the May 15 Preakness in Baltimore. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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Habs even series

(Series tied 1-1)

Canadiens 3 Penguins 1

Sidney Crosby showed his exasperation by slamming his stick against the net as the Pittsburgh Penguins were turned aside again and again by Montreal goaltender Jaroslav Halak.

Turns out it's not just Alex Ovechkin and the Washington Capitals that the underdog Canadiens are capable of frustrating, tormenting and beating.

Mike Cammalleri scored two more goals, Halak made 38 saves in a performance much like his series-stealing play during Montreal's first-round upset of Washington and the Canadiens surprised the Penguins by winning 3-1 yesterday.

Brian Gionta also scored as Montreal, playing without injured defenceman Andrei Markov, bounced back from a 6-3 loss in Game 1 and an early 1-0 deficit to even the Eastern Conference semifinal series at one game each.

GENE J. PUSKAR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Montreal Canadien Michael Cammalleri fires a goal past Pittsburgh Penguins goalie Marc-Andre Fleury yesterday.

Suddenly, a series the Stanley Cup champion Penguins are heavily favoured to win doesn't look like a walkover after all.

"That's what we wanted to do, a series like this, we wanted to get one (in Pittsburgh)," Scott Gomez said.

"It's far from over. But we came for one."

And they got it. Game 3 is tomorrow night in Montreal, followed by Game 4 Thursday. The first playoff series between the teams since 1998 returns to Pittsburgh for Game 5 Saturday.

"It's nothing to get frustrated about," Penguins forward Bill Guerin said.

"We don't have to go and reinvent the wheel.

"They're a solid defensive team. They're well coached, they know what they're doing and you don't want to get down to teams like that."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lakers blow lead, but still beat Jazz

(L.A. leads series 1-0)

Jazz 99 Lakers 104

Just in case the Utah Jazz forgot how Kobe Bryant finishes games, he provided another painful playoff reminder.

Bryant scored 11 of his 31 points in the final four minutes, and the Los Angeles Lakers blew a fourth-quarter lead before rallying for a 104-99 victory over the Jazz in their second-round series opener yesterday.

Pau Gasol had 25 points and 12 rebounds for the top-seeded Lakers, who played a dismal final period before Bryant seized control.

Last season's NBA finals MVP coolly scored seven consecutive points to erase Utah's four-point lead, followed by a dynamic slice through the lane for a layup with 22.6 seconds left.

The clubs are meeting in the post-season for the third consecutive year after the Lakers ended Utah's last two seasons, including a first-round victory in 2009. In each of the teams' previous five playoff meetings, the winner went on to the NBA finals.

Deron Williams scored 24 points for fifth-seeded Utah, which managed just one more field goal after taking a 93-89 lead with 4:10 to play.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hawks get past Bucks

• Jamal Crawford scored 22 points, Al Horford put up a double-double and Atlanta pulled away for a 95-74 win yesterday that gave the Hawks a 4-3 triumph in the tougher-than-expected series against the Milwaukee Bucks.

Argos shake things up at CFL draft

CFL The team with the greatest needs stirred the pot the most yesterday in the CFL Canadian College draft.

The Toronto Argonauts, looking to dramatically improve their Canadian content following a dismal 3-15 record last year, made two huge first-round deals to ensure they came away with hulking six-foot-eight, 309-pound offensive lineman Joe Eppele of Washington State and athletic Concordia linebacker Cory Greenwood.

Toronto dealt the first and eighth selections to the Saskatchewan Roughriders for the second and fourth picks and Canadian punter Jamie Boreham, a deal that was reached Friday.

Then the Argos and B.C. Lions swapped a total of eight picks, the most important being the two teams swapping the third and fourth overall selections.

With that, after Saskatchewan took Queen's linebacker Shomari Williams — the top-ranked prospect by the CFL's amateur scouting bureau — first overall, Toronto were able to select Eppele and Greenwood, players Argos head coach Jim Barker coveted.

"We have some real issues and to draft at No. 1 and No. 8 we could've got one of the guys wanted," Barker said.

"But we felt 'Let's try to move up and try to get the guys we want.'

"You can't be afraid, you have to be willing to take a chance. I'm sure there are fans out there who think we made a mistake giving up the No. 1 pick. But you just have to do what you think is right and what you think is good for your organization."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SCOREBOARD

CFL DRAFT

FIRST ROUND

1. Saskatchewan (via Toronto), Shomari Williams, LB, Queen's; 2. Toronto (via Saskatchewan), Joe Eppele, OL, Washington State; 3. Toronto (via B.C.), Cory Greenwood, LB, Concordia; 4. B.C., Danny Watkins, OL, Baylor; 5. Calgary, Rob Maver, P-K, Guelph; 6. Edmonton (via Winnipeg), Brian Bulcke, DL, Stanford; 7. Montreal, Kristian Matte, OL, Concordia.

NHL PLAYOFFS

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Montreal 3 Pittsburgh 1 (Series tied 1-1)
San Jose 4 Detroit 3 (Sharks lead 2-0)

NBA PLAYOFFS

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Atlanta 95 Milwaukee 74 (Hawks win series 4-3)
L.A. Lakers 104 Utah 99 (Lakers lead 1-0)

BASEBALL

YESTERDAY'S AL RESULTS

Toronto 9 Oakland 3
Baltimore 3 Boston 2 (10 ings)
Detroit 5 L.A. Angels 1
Minnesota 8 Cleveland 3
N.Y. Yankees 12 Chicago White Sox 3
Tampa Bay 1 Kansas City 0
Texas 3 Seattle 1

YESTERDAY'S NL RESULTS

Atlanta 7 Houston 1
Chicago Cubs 10 Arizona 5
Colorado 4 San Francisco 1
Florida 9 Washington 3
L.A. Dodgers 9 Pittsburgh 3
San Diego 8 Milwaukee 0
St. Louis 6 Cincinnati 0
Philadelphia 11 N.Y. Mets 5

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Governance changes underway for NSAC
Nova Scotia Agricultural College is in the process of transitioning from a branch of the province's agriculture department to an institution governed by a board like the rest of the universities in Nova Scotia. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

OCAD to get university designation?

Last week, the Ontario government proposed amendments to the Ontario College of Art and Design Act, which, if passed, will give official university status to the institution. Through the proposed amendments, the school's name would become the Ontario College of Art and Design University. The act would also officially recognize the role of the chancellor and revise the powers of the current board to recognize the creation of an academic senate. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Fusing metals: Best of both worlds

OddJobs
Diane Peters

Metronews.ca/oddjobs

Mokume gane was invented in 17th century Japan by swordsmiths.

No need to call the fire department, but John Carnes is running a homemade kiln at 1,500 degrees in the spare room in his Toronto apartment.

The kiln is tiny and Carnes, 45, keeps a fire extinguisher nearby. He's never had to use it.

He's using it to create jewelry in an ancient technique called mokume gane, which means "wood-grain metal." Few in Canada use this technique, which was invented in 17th century Japan.

Carnes was born in Los Angeles, and grew up in Hawaii. He liked to paint and draw, but gave up art as a teen to focus on playing bass. Back in California after high school, he became a full-time musician.

That craft took him to New York in 1993 where he played jazz, big band, reggae and funk. But he tired of the lifestyle and decided to explore art again.

Living in Woodstock, N.Y., at the time, he set up a studio in his attic and began taking courses in jewelry making.

Eight years later, he heard about mokume gane. He was teaching jewelry making and his students encouraged him to figure it out — they wanted to learn too.

On his own, using copper, silver and inexpensive Japanese alloys called shakudo and shibuichi, he taught himself. Since his jewelry style was minimal, the wood-grain look of the style suited his work, and set him apart. "I realized what a nice little niche this was."

In 2005, Carnes and his wife at the time moved to Toronto. He began doing his jewelry full time — along with some music on the side.

The process begins with sheets of metal — he uses the Japanese metals, silver and red, white and yellow gold — cut into small rectangles. Carnes clamps the sheets together, heats up his kiln with a jeweller's torch, and puts them inside. They get very hot, and just before the melting stage their molecules move around a lot. The metals fuse and the colours blend.

The temperature has to be just right. "They all have different melting points. It's difficult, and I'm doing this all visually."

Carnes then starts twisting and drilling into the block to create patterns with the fused colours. When that's done, he uses his traditional jewelry making equipment to roll out the metals, file and form the piece of jewelry.

Carnes does mainly custom ordered rings and sells them through his web site and high-end stores across Canada. "There are not many others doing this work. You have to get good enough to not worry about melting a thousand dollars worth of metal in your lap."

"You have to get good enough to not worry about melting a thousand dollars worth of metal in your lap."
Mokume gane jewelry designer John Carnes

The Lowdown

Job title: Mokume gane jewelry designer
Salary: $40,000 or so
Education/training: He's self-taught
Best Part of the Job: "Working for myself, being able to listen to whatever I want while I work."
Worst Part of the Job: "Spending a lot of time by myself. And dealing with the ups and downs of not having a paycheque every week."

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

Both teachers, genetics aid in student reading ability

EDUCATION Genetics play the biggest role in determining how fast a child learns to read, but a good teacher can make a measurable difference as well, according to a study released recently.

Florida State University used twins assigned to different classrooms to develop the conclusions.

Researchers studied more than 550 first- and second-grade classrooms with at least one identical twin and more than 1,000 classes with at least one fraternal twin.

Among the identical twins, 42 pairs out of 280 pairs showed significant differences in reading improvement during the year studied, Taylor said. In each case, the teachers also had significantly different quality scores. Twins with similarly good teachers got similar scores.

"If you have identical twins, they should do very similarly in school," Taylor noted.

The study published in the magazine Science was paid for by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

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Rush documentary scores at Tribeca

According to Variety, the documentary Rush: Beyond the Lighted Stage has snagged the audience award at the Tribeca Film Festival. Scot McFayden and Sam Dunn, the directors of the film, will be rewarded $25,000 for the win. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Entertainment

The Ref

Demi Moore will be a featured panelist on an upcoming episode of The Marriage Ref. Moore, 47, will be joined by Kelly Ripa and Lewis Black on the May 20 episode. TVGUIDE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

The joke goes on for Family Guy creator

IAN JOHNSTON
for Metro Canada

Family Guy creator Seth MacFarlane says no topic — including the Prophet Muhammad — should be off-limits for a comedy show. As long as it's a funny joke.

"No one is a bigger critic of organized religion than I am," says MacFarlane in reaction to the recent terrorist death threat leveled against the cartoon South Park over its spoofing of Muhammad.

Broadcaster Comedy Central eventually censored the episode without the cooperation of South Park creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone.

"It's tricky. You pick your battles," says MacFarlane. "You have to judge how real the threat is against how funny the joke is. How much do I care about the joke?"

MacFarlane — whose Sunday cartoon empire also includes American Dad and The Cleveland Show — says potentially controversial jokes on Family Guy go through "internal discussions" before they air.

Seth MacFarlane

Family Guy airs Sundays on Global

"It depends on what the joke is about. Immediacy has a lot to do with it. A recent shooting or plane crash, we try to stay away from."

In one instance, a joke about Scientology was dropped, while a bit about Terri Schiavo — the U.S. woman at the center of a right to die debate several years ago — was used.

"The issue had received an enormous amount of attention. It was our duty as a comedy show to comment on it in some way," he says.

MacFarlane says the much-talked-about Family Guy movie is still in its "early stages."

Not just a pretty face

Molly Ringwald shares candid personal stories in new book

HEATHER BUCHAN
for Metro Canada

For many, Molly Ringwald will always be 16, immortalized at that tender age by her endearing roles in the classic '80s teen flicks Sixteen Candles, Pretty in Pink and The Breakfast Club.

But today, the former teen queen is a happily married 42-year-old mother of three (a seven-year-old and nine-month-old twins), who has enjoyed a charmed life.

In her new book, Getting the Pretty Back: Friendship, Family, and finding the Perfect Lipstick, the actress shares candid stories from her personal life, lessons she's learned over the years, and doles out advice on everything from dating to dressing.

Part autobiography, part chick lit, part lifestyle guide, the book evolved from what Ringwald says was self-reflection as she neared a milestone in her own life.

"I was turning 40, and it's sort of an angst-ridden time and I wanted to write a book that I wanted to read," explains Ringwald over the phone from New York where she and her husband, writer and editor Panio Gianopoulos, live part-time when they're not in Los Angeles.

"I wanted the book to be really light and inspirational and uplifting and fun and colourful and I just wanted to write a book about being a woman rather than a girl," she says.

Former teen idol Molly Ringwald doles out advice on everything from dating to dressing in her new book Pretty Back: Friendship, Family, and finding the Perfect Lipstick.

Divided into nine chapters, Pretty tackles the various elements of womanhood.

"There's a motherhood chapter, a friendship chapter, a love chapter, a fitness chapter," explains Ringwald.

Despite finding fame at a young age, Ringwald managed to stay away from the drug addiction that plagued so many of her Brat Pack peers. "I just instinctively knew that if I went along that path, it would lead to no good," she says matter-of-factly. "There was just too much that I wanted to do in life that I thought drugs would just slow me down."

She left Hollywood in the '90s and moved to France, where she lived with her first husband, French writer Valery Lameignère, before returning to the U.S. and starring in various Broadway productions, including Cabaret.

Then came her second marriage and motherhood. But that hasn't slowed down her professional projects. In June, Ringwald returns to the TV as Anne Juergens in the third season of ABC's The Secret Life of the American Teenager. She's also in the midst of finishing up a jazz album and plans to write a second book — she hasn't yet decided what it's going to be about.

If anything, Pretty serves to remind us that Molly Ringwald's life didn't begin and end in a teen movie.

"In the end, I'd like to be remembered as a good person, as a good friend, as a good mother," says Ringwald. "There's the acting, the writing, the singing and all that, but that's not the most important thing for me."

Pretty Woman

- Getting the Pretty Back: Friendship, Family, and finding the Perfect Lipstick is the new book from Molly Ringwald.

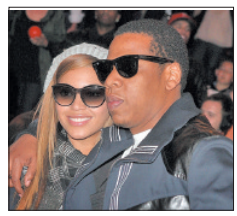
Beyoncé buzz in small town

Hey, did ya hear the news? Beyoncé and Jay-Z are moving to Schuylkill County, Pa.!

That's the rumour swirling around these parts, that the singer and her rap mogul husband, Grammy Award winners both, are planning to buy a multimillion-dollar spread on 85 secluded hectares in eastern Pennsylvania.

What began as idle gossip has turned into an article of faith among many here.

People are talking about it in grocery stores and pharmacies and kids' T-ball games, online and over the phone. A fan from nearby Orwigsburg even posted a message on Beyoncé's official website: "Hello Miss Beyoncé you are creating quite a stir in our small community ... We want to welcome you to our small but wonderful community, it has a lot of heart."



Beyoncé and Jay-Z

No one seems to know how the rumour got started. No deed has been recorded, no real estate transfer tax has been paid, and the celebs have yet to request a showing, according to the real estate agent listing the house.

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Box office

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theatres, according to Hollywood.com:

1. **A Nightmare on Elm Street:** $32.2 million US
2. **How to Train Your Dragon** $10.8 million
3. **Date Night:** $7.6 million

Date Night star Steve Carrell

4. **The Back-up Plan** $7.2 million
5. **Furry Vengeance:** $6.5 million
6. **The Losers:** $6 million
7. **Clash of the Titans:** $5.98 million
8. **Kick-ass,:** $4.5 million
9. **Death at a Funeral:** $4 million
10. **Oceans:** $2.6 million

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Seinfeld curse lifted for Louis-Dreyfus

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

With the fifth season of The New Adventures of Old Christine wrapping up next week, it's safe to say Emmy-winner Julia Louis-Dreyfus has successfully dodged the Seinfeld curse.

The acclaimed comic actress, who receives a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame next week, sat down with Metro to talk about the series that's been keeping her happily busy for five years.

Q After five seasons, what do you think Christine has learned over the years?

A Oh, she's learned nothing. That's why things are getting worse.

Q Where do you plan to take the character at this point in the show's history?

A To more humiliating places for sure. That is really our goal.

Q Does it always have to be humiliating? Or will she be able to find happiness at some level?

A I think she finds a way to be happy, and sometimes isn't even aware of the fact that she's being humiliated, which is also fun to play, that kind of buffoonery. But sure, there are moments of happiness, and then there are moments of despair, and it's just a question of, from one episode to the next, getting the right cocktail of the two. But ultimately, you know, obviously our goal is to be funny. So it seems it's better to laugh at her.

Q Was it tough switching between playing Christine and playing a version of yourself on Curb Your Enthusiasm?

A Not really. On Curb Your Enthusiasm, it's strange because you're playing yourself but not really playing yourself, because I would never do anything like that. I don't accost people that way. Although I'd like to. I think I should accost people more frequently. On our show, it's just a different style of performing. I try to bring a kind of reality to it even if it's not something I would do. And there's certainly plenty of things playing Christine that I can relate to — being a sort of desperate, well-intentioned person. I can certainly tap into those feelings.

	Vu	SC	C		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
5/9/10 primetime	265	353	2	TVO	Victorian Farm		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		Midsomer Murders		Empire of the Word		Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3	GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	House "The Choice" (N)		24 (HDTV PA) (N)		NCIS: Los Angeles (N)		News Hour
	-	-	5	SRC	Squelettes	Belle-Baie (N)	Le Verdict: c'est votre opinion		Alain Lefèvre		Le Téléjournal Nouvelles. (SC)		TJ Ontario
	209	342	6	CHRO	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N)	Dancing With the Stars (HDTV) (Live)			Robson Arms	Law & Order "Crashers"		Comedy Now
	196	311	7	CTV	etalk	Access H.	CSI: Miami "Meltdown"		Big Bang	Big Bang	Castle "Food to Die For"		CTV News
	208	303	8	CBC	NHL Hockey Playoffs: Teams TBA. (HDTV) (Live)						CBC News: The National		The Hour
	-	360	9	NBC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Chuck (HDTV) (N)		Law & Order (HDTV)		Law & Order "Crashers"		News
	117	713	10	TVA	La Classe de 5e (HDTV) (N)		Ma Maison Rona (HDTV)		Teste sur des humains (N)		TVA nouvelles	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
	-	-	11	QS	Big Brother QC	Rire et délire	CSI: NY (N) (SC)		Le Mentaliste La voiture. (SC)		L'Attaque à 5 (N)		Big Brother QC
	137	763	12	TFO	Panorama		Aux limites du corps		*La Belle noiseuse* ★★★ (1991, Drame) Michel Piccoli.				Bibliotheca
	-	362	13	CBS	The Insider (N)	Judge-Brown	How I Met	Engagement	Big Bang	Big Bang	(10:01) CSI: Miami (N)		Two/Half Men
	216	395	14	OMN2	Family Guy	The Simpsons	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	King	Cold Case
	214	344	15	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		How I Met	How I Met	Chuck (HDTV) (N)		Curb-Enthsm	Curb-Enthsm	News
	115	343	16	CFMT	Two/Half Men	The Office	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)		Vivere V	Omni News:	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Metropia
	218	345	18	CHCH	*Before Sunset* ★★★ (2004, Romance)			*Shakespeare in Love* ★★★ (1998, Romance-Comedy) Joseph Fiennes.					News at 11 (N)
	-	361	20	ABC	Action News	Entertainment	Dancing With the Stars (HDTV) (Live)			Romantically	Castle "Food to Die For"		News
	512	396	24	CPAC	La Période de questions		Heure polit.	L'Heure politique				Revue	Période-quest.
	651	355	25	CTS	Little House on the Prairie		Father Dowling Mysteries		100 Huntley Street		Life Today	This Is Day	John Hagee
	-	365	36	FOX	TMZ (N)	Seinfeld	House "The Choice" (N)		24 (HDTV PA) (N)		FOX 2 News (N)		News
	-	-	64	PBS	Business Rpt.	Wings-Canada	Antiques Roadshow (N)		American Experience (N) (DVS)			Immigrant	Charlie Rose
	205	312	104	CTV	etalk	Access H.	CSI: Miami "Meltdown"		Big Bang	Big Bang	Castle "Food to Die For"		CTV News
news	502	390	26	NW	The Lang & O'Leary Exchange		Connect with Mark Kelley (N)		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		National
	500	500	33	CNN	John King, USA (N)		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV) (N)		
sports	406	417	27	net	MLB Baseball Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim at Boston Red Sox. (HDTV) (Live)						Sportsnet Connected		Prime Time
	126	730	28	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI économie	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	400	280	30	TSN	NHL Hockey						SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)		
	410	403	52	SCR	Score Today		The WWE Experience		(9:15) WWE Monday Night RAW With Michael Cole and Jerry Lawler.				
	411	457	56	OLN	Ghost Hunters		Destination Truth		Operate-Repo	Operate-Repo	Ghost Hunters		Destin. Truth
	417	406	59	SC	NASCAR Smart	NASCAR Hub	Fast Track to Fame (HDTV) (N)		Racing Chef	NASCAR	NASCAR	What's Deal?	Car Crazy
family	554	544	48	TEL	Johnny Test	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Robot Chicken
	557	540	51	FAM	Sonny Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
	551	542	65	YTV	Survive This	Survive This	In Real Life		Survive This	That's-Weird	To Be Indie	Family Biz	Prank Patrol
cable variety	570	580	29	MM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		mmtop10.ca		Behind the Music		Family Jewels
	615	520	31	A&E	The First 48 (HDTV)		Intervention "Brittany"		Intervention "Tyler" (N)		Fame and Recovery (N)		Paranormal
	628	584	32	SPKE	The Ultimate Fighter		TNA Wrestling (HDTV) (Live)				Jail (N)	Jail	Warrior
	521	560	34	TLC	Little People	Little People	Little People	Little People	Best Food Ever (N)		Ultimate Chili Challenge		Little People
	145	761	35	TV5	Un village français		Enquête sur le Nil: les secrets des		pharaons bâtisseurs		Survivre		TV5 Le Journal
	616	521	39	SHO	Relic Hunter		Last Chapter		Last Chapter		Misfits (N)		Survivors
	620	523	40	BVO	A Bronx Dream		*U-Carmen* ★★ (2005, Musical) Pauline Malefaine, Andile Tshoni, Andiswa Kedama.						Law & Order
	520	505	42	DIS	Daily Planet (N)		MythBusters		Dirty Jobs "Tight Spaces" (N)		Canada's Worst Handyman (N)		Daily Planet
	575	583	43	CMT	Due South		Amer. Funniest Home Videos		According-Jim	According-Jim	*Planes, Trains and Automobiles* ★★★ (1987)		
	601	562	45	SLC	Rich Bride Poor Bride		Bulging Brides	Bulging Brides	Rich Bride Poor Bride		The Millionaire Matchmaker		ET Canada
	625	548	46	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Jeff Dunham: Spark of Insanity		Daily Show
	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	House/Payne	House/Payne	Law & Order: SVU		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	*Dumb-Dumber*
	600	564	49	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	For Rent	Bang, Buck	Home to Flip	Marriage	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes/Homes
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		*Path of Destruction* (2005, Science Fiction), David Keith				Stormworld
	581	566	53	MTV	My Life as Liz	After	Cribs	Teen Cribs	The Challenge: Fresh Meat II		My Life as Liz	After	MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	Re-Vamped		Wipeout		Wipeout		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	Prod. Parker
	522	506	55	HIS	Dogfights "Flying Tigers"		Aftermath (HDTV)		Storm Planets (HDTV) (N)		Cities of the Underworld		Ancients-Badly
	129	773	60	CD	Biographies "Heidi Hollinger"		Les Grands travaux (HDTV)		J'ai frôlé la mort (HDTV)		Motards hors-la-loi (HDTV)		Ondes de choc
	261	394	61	V	Murder, She Wrote		Eyes Down	Wait for God	Blue Murder		Unscripted (N)	Naked	Doc "Pilot"
	602	567	62	W	Supernanny		How Clean	How Clean	Love It or List It		Love It or List It "Ethier" (N)		Love It-List It
	269	350	70	APTN	Mishkuenita	Shaputuan	Kanien'ka:ka		Makusham	Légendes ind.	La Cité	Wilpogwad	Tshinanu
	621	527	71	TLK	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)		The Dr. Oz Show (N)		TMZ
	603	561	95	FN	Ricardo	David Rocco	Best Thing	At the Table	Top Chef Masters		Pitchin' In	Glutton	Best Thing

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Proof that bike seats don't effect potency

Cycling legend Lance Armstrong has announced — via Twitter — that he'll be a father for the fifth time. It's the second child together for the seven-time Tour de France champ, 38, and girlfriend Anna Hansen, people.com reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Jessica wants to be America's First Lady

BUT SWEETY, HAIR EXTENSIONS SHOULD REALLY BE A PART OF HEALTH CARE Jessica Simpson is a singer, actress and reality star, but now she has a new goal. She wants to be Michelle Obama.

"I really do," Simpson told People magazine before the White House Correspondents' dinner in Washington, D.C., Saturday. "She's such an incredible woman, and she's with such a powerful man."

What does Simpson admire most about the First Lady? "Everything she does she exudes confidence," says the singer. "I'm really just here to celebrate her."

Simpson was just one among many celebrities who came out for the annual event and mingled at the packed pre-party.

"It's sort of like Oscar night," mused comedian Bill Maher, who joked: "It's great to mingle with America's real intellectual heavyweights. I saw the Jonas Brothers, Justin Bieber, Jessica Simpson, Ryan Seacrest — I can't wait to talk politics."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

J.Lo's ex talks new TV show

OH LOOK! IT'S A BOTTOM OF A BARREL One of Jennifer Lopez's ex-husbands is looking to reality TV to help settle his debt to the popstar, according to Page Six. Ojani Noa is looking for takers on a potential series called I Owe J.Lo in which he tries to "land menial jobs to pay off a half-million dollar court judgment that he owes to his ex-wife," a source says. In 2007, a judge ordered Noa to pay Lopez $495,000 US for attempting to publish a book about their relationship. METRO WORLD NEWS

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

JIM CARREY is expressing himself, **STEPHEN FRY** ran into a pal at the airport, **LILY ALLEN** isn't as rich as previously reported, and **SARAH SILVERMAN** is looking to invest.

@JimCarrey I have no idea what I'm going to paint. My subconscious mind will have it's way

@stephenfry On my way home. Boarding soon. Just had sweet conversation with Ozzy Osbourne — that's LAX lounges for you I suppose. Such a dear thing.

@lilyroseallen I wish one could believe what one reads in the papers. Apparently I've got 5 million quid. Yay !

@SarahKSilverman I would love to hear about your Pyrimid and Ponzi opportunities! I've heard only good things!

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Drug charges dropped

AFTER SPENDING TIME IN REHAB. MAYBE SHE COULD DRAW A MAP FOR LINDSAY A drug charge against Mackenzie Phillips was dismissed Friday after the actress successfully completed a drug diversion program.

Phillips, 50, appeared in a Los Angeles courtroom for a final hearing in the case.

The television actress pleaded guilty in October 2008 to a felony drug possession charge and agreed to enter drug treatment.

She had been arrested two months earlier by airport screeners who said they found a small amount of narcotics.

"Mackenzie deserves great credit for seizing the opportunity she was given to get clean and prove she was worthy of the dismissal of her case," her attorney Blair Berk said in a statement.

In a video posted on the celebrity website TMZ.com, Phillips is seen telling the judge the case changed her life.

Phillips had a history of drug abuse and was fired from the TV series One Day at a Time in 1982.

She claimed in a memoir last year that she had a decade-long sexual relationship with their father, pop star John Phillips of the Mamas and the Papas.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tied the knot again

THEY COULDN'T REMEMBER WHAT THEY VOWED THE FIRST TIME Mariah Carey and Nick Cannon renewed their wedding vows over the weekend at their Beverly Hills mansion, just as the plan to do every year they're married, according to the Daily Mail.

"I encourage everybody to do it. If you are happy and in love, celebrate it," Cannon says.

"Doesn't everybody do that? Don't Heidi Klum and Seal do the same thing every year? It's just something fun to celebrate. We renew our vows and exchange gifts."

The pair tied the knot two years ago.

METRO WORLD NEWS

A lost little girl could lose out to the law

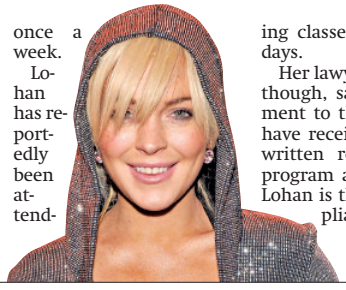
WHAT DOES ROCK BOTTOM LOOK LIKE TO HER? Lindsay Lohan has reportedly violated the terms of her probation and could face jail time, according to TMZ.

The troubled actress is on probation for a DUI but has not had the alcohol education requirement laid out by the judge, which she needs to do at least once a week.

Lohan has reportedly been attending classes once every 21 days.

Her lawyer isn't worried, though, saying in a statement to the website, "We have received no negative written report from the program and contend Ms. Lohan is therefore in compliance."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Dennis denied at the door

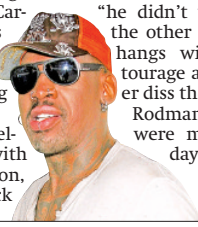
WOW, YOUR EX WIFE'S BIRTHDAY — ARE YOUR PARTY OPTIONS REALLY THAT LIMITED? Dennis Rodman found himself off the guest-list when he and a 12-person entourage tried to gain access to ex-wife Carmen Electra's 38th birthday bash in Miami recently, according to Page Six.

While Electra celebrated inside with fiancé Rob Patterson, "Rodman was stuck outside trying to negotiate entry and a complimentary bottle," a source says.

A rep for the former basketball star explains that the club agreed to let Rodman and one guest in, but "he didn't want to leave the other 10. He usually hangs with a big entourage and would never diss them."

Rodman and Electra were married for 10 days in 1998.

METRO WORLD NEWS



Are the pretty people packing it in?

BUT THEY PHOTOGRAPH SO WELL TOGETHER. Halle Berry and Canadian Gabriel Aubry have ended their five-year relationship after spending months working out the financial details and custody of their two-year-old daughter with a lawyer, according to Radar Online.

"Gabriel just felt it wasn't working anymore," a source says. "When they were first together, the nine-year age difference between them didn't phase him, she was the most beautiful woman he had ever dated and he was totally in love.

"But as time went on he started feeling it more and more."

METRO WORLD NEWS

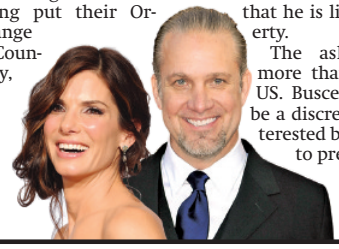
Selling the humble abode

IT WAS ALL A LIE. SELL IT ALL, SANDRA! Jesse James and Sandra Bullock are reportedly one step closer to making the end of their marriage official, having put their Orange County, Calif., home up for sale, according to TMZ.

Sources spotted L.A. realtor Chuck Buscemi at the house, and Buscemi later confirmed to the website that he is listing the property.

The asking price is more than $5.9 million US. Buscemi says it will be a discreet sale, and interested buyers will have to pre-qualify.

METRO WORLD NEWS



Woody wants you to eat your greens

WELL, HE WANTS FAT AMERICAN KIDS TO EAT THEIR GREENS, ANYWAY Vegan Woody Harrelson is urging U.S. government officials to support a bill enforcing healthy eating in schools across the US, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Cheers star swears by his hardcore vegetarian diet and is known for providing his movie co-stars with alternatives to meat on set.

Now Harrelson and his wife Laura are appealing to Congress to bring similar practises into the lunchroom by backing the Healthy School Meals Act of 2010, which seeks to add vegetarian food and non-dairy beverages to cafeterias.

Scarlett Johansson also pledged her support for the bill in a letter to a California congressman in March.

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Tuesday Showers 60% 19° / 10°
Wednesday Partly cloudy 24°/ 14°
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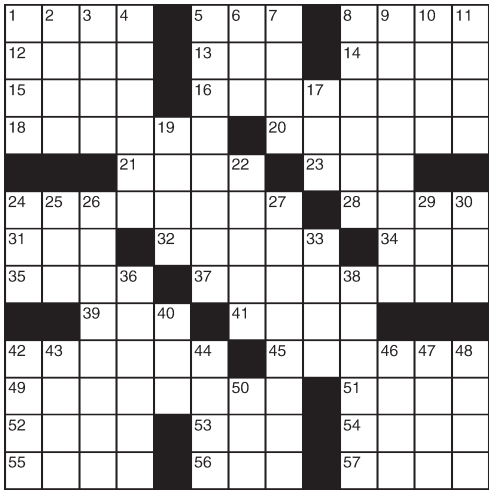
Take Five



ACROSS

1 Lily variety
5 "— Pinafore"
8 Congressional party chief
12 Tale teller
13 "— -hoo!"
14 Re planes and such
15 Desertlike
16 Lawyer, perhaps
18 Superficial layer
20 Melodic
21 Rat- —
23 Columnist Landers
24 Lets the air out
28 Fish's breather
31 Neighbor of Can. and Mex.
32 Native soldier of old India
34 Watery expanse
35 Grand story
37 Triumphed over
39 Sleuth, for short
41 And others (Lat.)
42 Guru's retreat
45 Low-quality stuff
49 Unquestionable
51 "— Almighty"
52 Ostriches' kin
53 Zero
54 Stare open-mouthed
55 Cleopatra's river
56 Part of AT&T
57 Otherwise

DOWN

1 Balkan dweller
2 Green land
3 Profit
4 Major trial
5 Added water
6 One of the Stooges
7 Couch
8 In decline
9 Pleasure seeker
10 Angers
11 Perspiration outlet
17 Historic time
19 Greek H's
22 Reservation residence
24 Payable
25 Kreskin's claim
26 Loyal
27 Merchant's non-aggressive ploy
29 CSA general
30 Young fellow
33 "Okay"
36 Red shade
38 Claim
40 Has the skills
42 Mideast gulf
43 Half (Pref.)
44 Mouthwash flavor
46 Elliptical
47 Uppercase
48 Elbow counterpart
50 Cravat

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	4							2
		7	5					
2		1		6	4			8
					3		2	9
		5		1		8		
9	6		8					
3			6	8		4		1
					7	9		
5							3	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

S	P	A		S	P	A	R	
A	R	M		H	U	G	E	
C	O	M	P	O	S	E	D	
S	P	O	O	F	S		U	M
			P	A	Y		C	O
C	R	I	E	R		F	E	W
H	I	T	S		S	A	D	
I	C	E		F	I	X		T
C	O	M	P	E	L		C	A
			L	E	I		A	R
B	R	I	O		C	O	M	P
B	A	R	T		O	R	E	O
C	H	E	Z		N	E	O	N

M	O	A	T					
A	N	T	I					
D	E	E	P					
U	M	A						
C	O	M	P	L	Y			
L	I	U						
B	E	E	R					
T	O	A	S	T				
C	A	N						
A	R	E	T	E	S			
C	O	M	P	R	I	S	E	
E	S	P						
D	O	T						

2	8	7	9	5	4	3	6	1
9	1	6	7	2	3	8	5	4
4	3	5	6	8	1	7	2	9
1	7	9	8	4	6	5	3	2
8	4	3	5	9	2	6	1	7
6	5	2	3	1	7	4	9	8
7	9	4	2	6	5	1	8	3
5	2	1	4	3	8	9	7	6
3	6	8	1	7	9	2	4	5

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

UNREQUITED: THEN
HE DOESN'T WRITE, HE DOESN'T CALL...
AND NOW
HE DOESN'T WRITE, HE DOESN'T CALL, HE DOESN'T E-MAIL, HE DOESN'T TEXT, HE DOESN'T BLOG, HE DOESN'T TWEET...
5/3
BANNERMAN

Metro Recipe of the Day

Lemony Lentil Soup

INGREDIENTS:

1 tbsp olive oil
3 cloves garlic, chopped coarsely
1 medium onion, chopped
1 1/3 cup red lentils, rinsed and drained
4 cups chicken or vegetable broth
1 tsp ground coriander
1/2 tsp ground cumin
Juice of 1 lemon
4 wafer-thin slices of lemon

METHOD:

1. In large heavy pot over medium heat, cook garlic and onions in oil until brown, 3 to 5 minutes. Add lentils and cook, stirring, 2 minutes. Stir in broth. Simmer, covered, until lentils are almost soft, 15 to 20 minutes.
2. In dry skillet set over high heat, toast coriander and cumin until aromatic, 1 to 2 minutes, then add to soup. Add lemon juice, lemon slices, and salt and pepper to taste, and simmer soup for 5 minutes before serving.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Your working routine and your wellbeing will take a turn for the better over the next few days and before you know it life will be fun again.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
By all means enjoy yourself, by all means go out with your friends, but don't let social activities take over your life.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
A quarrel of some sort needs to be resolved. It may be the case that someone has taken advantage of you but just this once it might be best not to hit back.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Opportunities to get ahead in the world will come thick and fast over the next few days but don't take on too much or you could run out of steam.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
How far is too far? That is the question you most need to ponder today, and you will certainly be tempted to go over the top.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
It may frustrating that you are unable to push ahead with a plan or project that means so much to you but there is no need to fret.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Only you know what it is you really want out of life so, logically, only you can take the decisions which will make it happen.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Don't waste time trying to explain to other people what you are trying to do, just get on and do it and let the chips fall where they will.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Change is inevitable and there is no point wishing that things would stay just as they are – it's not going to happen and you know it.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
There is nothing you cannot do if you really put your mind to it. Do you believe that? You should do because it's true.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
You won't get other people on your side if you constantly criticize what they are doing. Chill out.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
You can sense that this is a special time and that you should be doing special things. What happens today will point you in the right direction.

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This day in history

1494: Christopher Columbus first sights land that will be called Jamaica.
1715: "Edmund Halley's" total solar eclipse (the last one visible in London, United Kingdom for almost 900 years).
1802: Washington, D.C., is incorporated as a city.
1877: Labatt Park, the oldest continually operating baseball grounds in the world has its first game.
1937: Gone with the Wind, a novel by Margaret Mitchell, wins the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction.
1915: The poem In Flanders Fields is written by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae.

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06 Smart Fortwo
- Load, A/C, Auto
- st: 27921
- km: 22417

$11,950
$133* Bi-weekly

08 Prius Hybrid
- Load, A/C, Auto
- st: 28330
- km: 81618

$17,850
$148*** Bi-weekly

06 Lincoln Zephyr
- Load, A/C, Lthr, Roof
- st: 29378
- km: 54208

$17,870
$184* Bi-weekly

07 Ford Escape XLT
- 4WD, Load, A/C, Auto, Roof
- st: 29276
- km: 72907

$15,970
$142** Bi-weekly

06 Honda CR-V
- 4WD, Load, A/C
- st: 28602
- km: 100596

$15,450
$159* Bi-weekly

08 KIA Sorento
- Load, A/C, Auto
- st: 28495
- km: 19332

$18,850
$156*** Bi-weekly

07 Honda Civic
- Load, A/C, Std
- st: 28865
- km: 77988

$13,850
$123*** Bi-weekly

06 Acura CSX
- Load, A/C, Roof, Lthr
- st: 29259
- km: 83066

$14,780
$152* Bi-weekly

GREAT VEHICLES UNDER $10,000

08 Audi A4 Quattro
- Convert, AWD Load, Lthr
- st: 29361
- km: 44202

$38,450
$302*** Bi-weekly

06 Mazda Tribute
- 4WD, Load, A/C, Auto
- st: 29362
- km: 68935

$13,850
$143* Bi-weekly

08 KIA Rondo EX
- Load, A/C, Auto
- st: 28739
- km: 55201

$13,950
$110*** Bi-weekly

06 Jaguar X-Type 3.0
- AWD, Load, Roof, Lthr
- st: 28469
- km: 63233

$23,870
$246* Bi-weekly

05 Toyota Echo
- A/C, Std
- st: 29519
- km: 72273

$7,450
$83* Bi-weekly

05 Pontiac Montana
- Load, A/C
- st: 90564-B
- km: 76478

$9,450
$105* Bi-weekly

05 Saturn VUE V6
- Load, A/C, Auto
- st: 28165
- km: 61692

$12,650
$130* Bi-weekly

06 Accord SE
- Load, A/C, Roof, Std
- st: 29324
- km: 89471

$12,890
$133* Bi-weekly

07 Mazda3
- A/C, Std
- st: 29278
- km: 73424

$10,670
$104** Bi-weekly

09 Grand Caravan
- Stow N Go, Load, A/C
- st: 29298
- km: 54737

$16,750
$131*** Bi-weekly

08 KIA Spectra
- Load, A/C, Auto
- st: 29343
- km: 61325

$8,950
$78*** Bi-weekly

05 Malibu MAXX LT
- Load, A/C, Roof, Auto
- st: 90564-B
- km: 76478

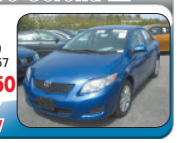
$8,950
$100* Bi-weekly

06 Honda Pilot EX
- 4WD, Load, A/C
- st: 28586
- km: 78558

$24,850
$256* Bi-weekly

10 Corolla LE
- Load, A/C
- st: 29489
- km: 30257

$17,850
$140*** Bi-weekly



07 Ford F-150 Triton
- Load, A/C, Auto
- st: 29320
- km: 73318

$15,950
$141** Bi-weekly

10 Ford Mustang
- Load, A/C, Auto
- st: 29207
- km: 29348

$22,470
$176*** Bi-weekly

05 Sentra 1.8SE
- Load, A/C, Std
- st: 28269
- km: 87787

$6,450
$72* Bi-weekly

05 Crown Victoria LX
- Load, A/C, Lthr
- st: 29375-A
- km: 78610

$9,950
$111* Bi-weekly

09 Mazda CX-7
- AWD, Load A/C, Auto
- st: 28801
- km: 15348

$27,880
$219*** Bi-weekly

05 Pathfinder
- 4WD, Load, A/C, Auto
- st: 28161
- km: 99339

$18,670
$213* Bi-weekly

09 Nissan Versa
- Load, A/C, Auto
- st: 29249
- km: 55744

$11,850
$103*** Bi-weekly

09 Toyota Camry LE
- Load, A/C, Roof
- st: 29295
- km: 31523

$19,860
$156*** Bi-weekly

08 Suzuki Swift
- Auto, A/C
- st: 29221
- km: 55490

$8,950
$78*** Bi-weekly

08 Cobalt LS
- A/C, Auto
- st: 27416-A
- km: 67002

$8,950
$76*** Bi-weekly

08 Santa Fe GLS
- 4WD, Load, A/C, Auto
- st: 28374
- km: 61951

$19,950
$164*** Bi-weekly

09 Lancer
- Load, A/C, Auto
- st: 29439
- km: 23181

$15,850
$124*** Bi-weekly

08 Honda Fit
- Load, A/C, Auto
- st: 29339
- km: 55238

$12,960
$102*** Bi-weekly

08 Outback S/W
- AWD, Load, A/C, Auto
- st: 29463
- km: 30408

$24,840
$195*** Bi-weekly

08 Hyundai Accent
- Auto, A/C
- st: 29194
- km: 69385

$8,450
$74*** Bi-weekly

06 Toyota Matrix
- A/C, Std
- st: 29453
- km: 91718

$9,650
$107* Bi-weekly

09 Sebring
- Load, A/C
- st: 29244
- km: 56874

$11,950
$104*** Bi-weekly

09 Altima 2.5S
- Load, A/C, Auto
- st: 28318
- km: 32852

$18,850
$156*** Bi-weekly

07 Mazda5
- Load, A/C, Std
- st: 29258
- km: 90347

$11,850
$115** Bi-weekly

06 BMW 325 XI AWD
- Load, Lthr, Auto, Roof
- st: 28306
- km: 68321

$29,950
$309* Bi-weekly

07 Toyota Yaris
- Std
- st: 29044
- km: 77412

$8,350
$81** Bi-weekly

05 Saturn Relay
- Load, A/C
- st: 29036
- km: 70122

$9,340
$104* Bi-weekly

08 Eclipse GS Coupe
- Load, A/C Auto
- st: 28642
- km: 41699

$17,980
$141*** Bi-weekly

08 Sonata
- Load, A/C, Auto
- st: 28354
- km: 64132

$12,850
$101*** Bi-weekly

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